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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR :

Administrative Action

REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

KATHY ANNE HUSBANDS, R.N.

License No. 26NR09631000

FINAL ORDER OF

DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the followinG findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- Kathy Anne Husbands ("Respondent") is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), licensees eligible for renewal in May 2010 are required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of continuing education during the two-year period between June 1, 2008 and May 31, 2010 in order to renew their licenses.
- 3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(f), licensees are required to maintain documentation of completion of continuing education for

- a period of four years after completion, and shall submit such documentation to the Board upon request.
- 4. On or about May 16, 2010, Respondent completed and submitted an online biennial license renewal for the period of June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2012, and Respondent's license was then renewed by the Board through May 31, 2012.
- 5. Respondent was asked on the biennial renewal application whether Respondent would have "completed the required continuing education credits by May 31, 2010," referring to the biennial renewal period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. Respondent answered "no" to the question.
- 6. On or about October 28, 2010, Respondent sent a letter to the Board advising that she was unaware of the continuing education requirement. Respondent stated that she had not practiced in New Jersey for the last four years because she had moved to Arizona. She apologized to the Board and stated that she would forward documentation of continuing education credits "forthwith."
- 7.On or about March 28, 2011, the Board sent a letter to Respondent, advising that she had not fulfilled the continuing education requirement for the 2010 license renewal and that she was required to submit, within 7-10 business days, proof of completion of 30 hours of continuing education. The letter was sent to Respondent's address of record, 188 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Way, Phoenix, Arizona

85024 via regular mail, which was returned to the Board as "vacant - unable to forward."

- 8. On or about December 8, 2011, the Board sent another letter to Respondent requesting that she provide, within thirty (30) days, either proof of successful completion of 30 hours of continuing education credits or submission of her active license. The letter was sent to Respondent via regular mail at 188 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Way, Phoenix, Arizona 85024 and at 18834 N. 14<sup>th</sup> Way, Phoenix, Arizona 85024; neither letter was returned.
- 9. To date, Respondent has not complied with the Board's continuing education requirement.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent failed to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Board, completion of the required 30 hours of continuing education for the two-year period of June 1, 2008 through May 31, 2010. The Board therefore finds Respondent in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(b), which subjects Respondent to sanctions, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and 45:1-21(h).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on March 27, 2012, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license until she was able to document completion of continuing education for the June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2010 renewal period. A copy of the Provisional Order was forwarded to respondent. The Provisional Order was

subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30<sup>th</sup> business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order and submitted documentation of the equivalent of 30 nursing continuing education credits which were completed prior to June 1, 2008. These credits were therefore not applicable to the 2008-2010 renewal period. The Board considered this matter, and determined that inasmuch as no material discrepancies had been raised with respect to the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Provisional Order, further proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

THEREFORE, it is on this 19th day of July, 2012

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing is hereby suspended pending submission of proof of completion of thirty (30) hours of continuing education as required by N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3(a).

2. Respondent shall refrain from practicing as a nurse and shall not represent herself as a Registered Professional Nurse until such time as her license is reinstated. Any practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for a charge of unlicensed practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN

Board President